



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

MEN AND BOOKS FAMOUS IN THE LAW. By FREDERICK C. HICKS. Rochester, N. Y.: THE LAWYERS CO-OPERATIVE PUBLISHING CO. 1921. pp. 259.

This is a very interesting little book. It is a happy combination of biography, bibliography and gossip about men and books famous in the law. It opens with an account of the life and work of a little known writer—John Cowell, born in 1554, Regius Professor of Civil Law at Cambridge, who compiled one of the earliest law dictionaries. This he called *The Interpreter; or booke containing the signification of words.....A worke not onely profitable, but necessary for such as desire throughly to be instructed in the knowledge of our lawes, statutes, or other antiquities*. It was published in 1607. Because of some uncomplicated remarks about Littleton, which Cowell quoted, he aroused the ire of Coke; because of some things which he said about the King's prerogatives, he aroused the ire of the Commons; and because of pressure brought to bear upon the King, the King's ire also was aroused, with the result that Cowell's book was ordered to be suppressed. There is severe stricture, in the proclamation of suppression, upon the spirit of the times, which "hath bred such an unsatiable curiosity in many men's spirits, and such an itching in the tongues and pens of most men, as nothing is left unsearched to the bottom both in talking and writing"; and, as if this were not bad enough, "that many men that never went out of the compass of cloysters or colleges will freely wade by their writings in the deepest mysteries of monarchy and political government." What a warning this should be to the modern college professor!

There is next much interesting comment upon Coke, and his edition of Littleton, as well as upon his Reports. Then follows Blackstone, and his Commentaries, with a mass of details, both personal and bibliographical which I, at least, have not seen assembled in one place before.

Kent, and his Commentaries are considered in the same way.

Mr. Hicks then turns to Edward Livingston and his great effort to establish a "System of Penal Law for the State of Louisiana," to which all who work in the field of criminal law are so much indebted.

The book closes with an account of the life and work of Henry Wheaton, lawyer, Supreme Court reporter, diplomat and publicist, with especial emphasis upon his controversy with Richard Peters over the latter's edition of the early reports of the Court, and that between William Beach Lawrence and Richard Henry Dana over the use alleged to have been made by the latter of the former's notes, in Dana's later edition of Wheaton's "Elements of International Law."

Mr. Hicks' book bears evidence of wide research, and is written in an excellent and attractive literary style. There are portraits of Coke, Littleton, Blackstone, Kent, Livingston and Wheaton.

There is an Introduction by Harlan F. Stone, Dean of the Columbia University School of Law, and a dedication to Professor Nathan Abbott.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Hicks may give us more work of the same sort.

FLOYD R. MECHEM

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW SCHOOL